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Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, April 22, 2014

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Aiken Standard: Gov. Nikki Haley tours MOX facility at SRS

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20140421/AIK0101/140429918/1004/gov-nikki-haley-tours-mox-facility-at-srs>

Derrek Asberry

Gov. Nikki Haley's visit to the Savannah River Site's MOX facility reaffirmed her belief that the state of South Carolina is getting a raw deal in the federal government's push to freeze funding for construction of the facility.

Note: "It is mostly finished on the outside; I think it's the inside that has to be done, but just to see it ... you see all the work that's been done and how much has been accomplished," Haley told reporters after her tour. "You've (the federal government) made a very real investment, and now you want to walk away from it? It really defies all logic."

Augusta Chronicle: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley says state won't back down on MOX lawsuit

<http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/metro/2014-04-21/south-carolina-gov-nikki-haley-says-state-wont-back-down-mox-lawsuit?v=1398118604>

Meg Mirshak

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said the state won't back down on its lawsuit challenging the Obama administration's decision to stop construction on the mixed-oxide fuel fabrication facility at Savannah River Site.

Note: "You see all the work that has been done," Haley said about the partially finished MOX facility. "I saw how much has been accomplished, and then you're saying 'for nothing?' You have already made a very real investment. It really defies all logic."

The State: Gov. Nikki Haley: Finish MOX plant

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/21/3401010/finish-upmox-planthaley-says.html>

Sammy Fretwell

Looking down from a helicopter Monday, Gov. Nikki Haley gained a new perspective on a partially finished nuclear fuel plant that once was envisioned as a way to rid the nation of deadly, weapons-grade atomic material.

Note: "I saw how much had been accomplished," Haley told reporters. "Then you're saying, 'For nothing? You've made a very real investment. There is structure and everything there. And now they are just going to walk away from it. It really defies all logic.'"

Note: "We can't keep this," Haley said of the plutonium. "If they're not going to finish the facility, they need to go ahead and take this. South Carolina is not going to be a dumping ground. We're not going to allow that to happen."

Associated Press: New SC law deletes high school exit exam mandate

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=wtv57wKw

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina is replacing its high school exit exam with tests considered more useful to students' future success, with scores that could go on work resumes or college admissions applications.

Note: "The true measure of our education system is how prepared students are to enter the workforce and forcing them to take a 30-year-old, one-size-fits-all test is not the best way to accomplish that goal," Haley spokesman Doug Mayer said Monday.

The State: Lawmakers mulling how far government should go to make certain crime records secret

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/21/3400900/lawmakers-mulling-how-far-government.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

Although Gov. Nikki Haley vetoed a bill two years ago that would have allowed various kinds of criminals to have their criminal histories deleted from the public record, new efforts are underway again in the General Assembly this year to try again.

2014 Campaign Cycle News:

The State: Gov. Haley's first campaign ads tout economic recovery

http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/21/3400814/exclusive-gov-haleys-first-campaign.html?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter&utm_destination=buzzatthestate

Andrew Shain

The early push to spread Gov. Nikki Haley's re-election message continues this week with her campaign's first TV ads, coming on the heels of yet another TV spot paid for by the Republican Governors Association that attacks her Democratic challenger, Vincent Sheheen.

Note: "We're proud of the governor's record, and we're excited to begin telling that story," Haley campaign spokesman Rob Godfrey said Monday.

Greenville News: Small business group endorses Graham

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2014/04/21/small-business-group-endorses-graham/7974369/>

Rudolph Bell

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham is picking up the support of national business advocacy groups as he campaigns for a third term against six other Republicans and two Democrats who want his job. The National Federation of Independent Business, which lobbies for small businesses, gave Graham its stamp of approval Monday during a press conference in Greenville.

Anderson Independent: Five U.S. Senate hopefuls debate in Anderson

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/2014/apr/21/five-us-senate-hopefuls-debate-in-anderson/?partner=RSS>

Kirk Brown

Five of U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham's challengers took part in a debate that about 200 Anderson County Republicans attended Monday night. Graham chose not to participate, opting instead to wrap up a day of campaigning in Greenville County by attending an event in Simpsonville.

Index-Journal: Battle lines drawn

Gagnon's seat targeted by state GOP and Dems

<http://www.indexjournal.com/Content/News/News/Article/Battle-lines-drawn-/4/40/25045>

Frank Bumb

It's rare that national politics can get pushed to the side, even briefly, when Third District U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan speaks to constituents at a county GOP meeting. But that's exactly what happened Monday evening as Duncan stumped for District 11 state Rep. Craig Gagnon at the Abbeville County GOP.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Island Packet: Ongoing Heritage success a great testament to area

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/04/21/3071480/ongoing-heritage-success-a-great.html?sp=/99/342/1750/#storylink=cpy>

Editorial

It was a little soggy. Security slowed entrance into the tournament. And there was a surprise need for off-site parking to deal with flooded grass lots within Sea Pines. But this year's RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing represents a level of success that seemed nearly impossible just a few years ago.

The State: Is SC Legislature returning to 1984?

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/21/3400532/scoppe-is-sc-legislature-returning.html>

Cindi Scoppe

THERE WAS a time when a columnist could write "We've always been at war with Eastasia," and anyone who read a newspaper would have comprehended an entire world of messages, and she could have moved on to the larger point to which that reference referred.

Greenville News: Pay increase could help attract bus drivers

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2014/04/21/pay-increase-help-attract-bus-drivers/7977213/>

Editorial

A key element of successful schools is ensuring that students are there on time and ready to learn. That can be a difficult proposition in a school district where it is routine for school buses to be running behind schedule because there are not enough drivers.

Rock Hill Herald: Tega Cay buying ailing water service

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/04/21/5887500/tega-cay-buying-ailing-water-service.html?sp=/100/105/121/>

Editorial

Assuming plans by the city of Tega Cay to buy the privately owned Tega Cay Water Service move forward, the city will not only be buying a sewer service but also the troubles that go with running it. Troubles for current owners have been plentiful.

Index-Journal: Senate states obvious, offers sound solutions

<http://www.indexjournal.com/Content/Opinion/Opinion/Article/Senate-states-obvious--offers-sound-solutions/8/154/25042>

Editorial

The Senate has not weighed in on the topic to the point of banning certain foods and putting restrictions on the size of drinks that can be sold, but its April 8 resolution does seem to state the obvious: We have a lot of fat children and their general health and well-being is at great risk.

Legislative Session News:

Greenville News: Changes brewing to fix beer laws to lure companies

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2014/04/21/changes-brewing-fix-beer-laws-lure-companies/7991845/>

Eric Connor

Beer laws that have been in place in South Carolina since the end of Prohibition now stand in the way of landing a California craft brewing giant's \$31 million eastward expansion. Yet, if time runs out to attract Stone Brewing Co. — as industry experts in the state say it likely will — the mere idea that the state could be a candidate has prompted calls for change that have found increasing success after decades of inertia.

Times and Democrat: Lawmaker tries again to create 'Eartha Kitt Day'

http://thetandd.com/news/lawmaker-tries-again-to-create-eartha-kitt-day/article_ef721abac9d3-11e3-9612-001a4bcf887a.html

Dionne Gleaton

State Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter, D-Orangeburg, is hopeful that a bill she has co-sponsored to honor a North native who achieved international fame will not be stopped this year. She also hopes the bill will serve as a catalyst for cultural tourism in the state.

South Carolina News:

Island Packet: Rain delivers mixed results for businesses during Heritage

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2014/04/21/3071653/rain-delivers-mixed-results-for.html?sp=/99/100/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

Dan Burley

For some businesses, the heavy rain during the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing was a stroke of luck. But for several in Sea Pines, Friday's downpour and the weekend's wet weather put a damper on retail and ticket sales, business owners and tournament officials said Monday.

Associated Press: DJJ youth, volunteers making urns for SC veterans

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=sqpwVTT8

South Carolina's Department of Juvenile Justice is participating in a project to build urns to hold the unclaimed cremated remains of military veterans. Members of the Missing in America Project and American Legion Post 193 are working Tuesday with youth in DJJ custody to build the wooden urns.

Local News:

The State: Homelessness, public safety, budget on busy Columbia council agendas

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/21/3400899/homelessness-public-safety-budget.html#storylink=cpy>

Clif LeBlanc

The capital city is looking for someone skilled enough to pull together narrow factions that deal with individual aspects of homelessness. A "homelessness coordinator" would be tasked with becoming the glue to cement disparate organizations that serve meals, provide transitional housing, offer medical and job services among other assistance for homeless adults.

Rock Hill Herald: Another Tega Cay sewage spill prompts no-swim advisory on Lake Wylie

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/04/21/3400225/utility-officials-blame-heavy.html#storylink=cpy>

Anna Douglas, John Marks

A 300-gallon sewage spill into Lake Wylie over the Easter weekend has prompted a no-swim advisory by the Tega Cay Water Service. Officials with the troubled private utility company issued a warning to residents on Sunday, saying the spill occurred when heavy rainfall on Saturday night overwhelmed the system.

National News:

New York Times: Keystone Pipeline May Be Big, but This Is Bigger

<http://mobile.nytimes.com/2014/04/22/business/energy-environment/us-emission-rules-would-far-outweigh-impact-of-keystone-pipeline.html>

Coral Davenport

THE Keystone XL pipeline is a great political symbol. The proposed 1,700-mile pipeline, which would carry 830,000 barrels daily of carbon-heavy crude from Canada's Alberta oil sands to Gulf Coast refineries, has galvanized environmental activists, who call it a litmus test for President Obama's commitment to fighting climate change.

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